GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1156
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
FAILURE ANALYSIS COMMITTEE ON GSLV
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Yadav Shri Ram Kripal

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Failure Analysis Committee formed to look into the reasons behind the failure of GSLV has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings of the Committee;

(c) the steps contemplated to be taken for future missions in view of the findings; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Failure Analysis Committee consisting of experts from ISRO, academia and National Research Laboratory has already submitted its report to the Government.

(b) The Failure Analysis Committee has concluded that the primary cause of mission failure is due to loss of thrust in one of the liquid strap-on motors. The anomalous behavior was due to malfunctioning of propellant regulator of the gas generator system in one liquid strap-on motor. This resulted in higher propellant mass flow rate than desired, leading to the engine shut-off just after vehicle lift-off. The malfunctioning of the propellant regulator is attributed to the larger flow area due to manufacturing error.

(c) Based on the recommendations made by the Failure Analysis Committee, actions have already been undertaken to further strengthen the quality control and quality assurance procedures both within ISRO and external work centres, independent inspection and quality checks by in-house agencies for all critical components and sub-assemblies on receipt from work centres, review of acceptance procedures and standards. Additional tests have also been introduced for the critical engine components.

(d) Not applicable.